

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Original): A polarizer comprising a film having a structure having a minute domain dispersed in a matrix formed of a translucent water-soluble resin including an iodine light absorbing material.

2. (Original): The polarizer according to Claim 1, wherein the minute domain is formed of an oriented birefringent material.

3. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to Claim 2, wherein the birefringent material shows liquid crystalline properties at least in orientation processing step.

4. (Original): The polarizer according to Claim 2, wherein the minute domain has 0.02 or more of birefringence.

5. (Original): The polarizer according to Claim 2, wherein in a refractive index difference between the birefringent material forming the minute domain and the translucent water-soluble resin in each optical axis direction,

a refractive index difference (Δn^1) in direction of axis showing a maximum is 0.03 or more, and

a refractive index difference (Δn^2) between the Δn^1 direction and a direction of axes of two directions perpendicular to the Δn^1 direction is 50% or less of the Δn^1 .

6. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to Claim 1, wherein an absorption axis of the iodine light absorbing material is oriented in ~~the A_n^+ direction~~ a direction of an axis showing a maximum refractive index difference between the birefringent material forming the minute domain and the translucent water-soluble resin.

7. (Original): The polarizer according to Claim 1, wherein the film is manufactured by stretching.

8. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to Claim 1, wherein the minute domain has a length of 0.05 through 500 μm in ~~the A_n^2 direction~~ a direction perpendicular to the direction of an axis showing a maximum refractive index difference between the birefringent material forming the minute domain and the translucent water-soluble resin.

9. (Currently amended): The polarizer according to Claim 1, wherein ~~an~~ the iodine light absorbing material has an absorbing band at least in a band of 400 through 700 nm wavelength range.

10. (Original): The polarizer according to Claim 1, wherein a transmittance to a linearly polarized light in a transmission direction is 80% or more,

a haze value is 5% or less , and

a haze value to a linearly polarized light in an absorption direction is 30% or more.

11. (Original): A polarizing plate having a transparent protective layer formed at least on one side of the polarizer according to Claim 1.

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12. (Original): An optical film having at least one of the polarizer according to Claim 1 or the polarizing plate according to Claim 11.

13. (Currently amended): An image display comprising at least one ~~selected from the group consisting~~ of the polarizer according to Claim 1 ~~[[,]]~~ or the polarizing plate according to Claim 11, ~~and the optical film according to Claim 12.~~

14. (New): An image display comprising the optical film according to claim 12.